

WOMAN, AGED 115, ANSWERS QUERIES OF CENSUS TAKER

Aged Negress, Former Slave, Outlives Four Husbands and Recalls Year 1833, When "Stars Fell" Vividly.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., April 8.—Long, long ago, "when the stars fell," she was 29 years of age, Anna Prater, negress, told Paul F. Collins, census taker, today. The date when "they" fell, 1833, she remembered that distinctly, along with many other interesting things, she told the "census man," and so it came to pass that the negress was officially entered in the United States government statistics as 115 years old, the oldest inhabitant west of Chicago.

It was the most remarkable answer received since Collins and scores of others began taking the census here, she said. Anna, obtained additional information, and was so astonished by her story that he went away and returned with E. W. Sanderson, census expert from Washington, now in the Los Angeles office.

For the second time, in the presence of Sanderson and Collins, Anna related her story, which, so far as the age and the details connected with the long life are concerned, surprised nothing Mr. Sanderson has heard in his 20 years' experience as a census man.

She was born in South Carolina, near a place called Darlington, she told the two, a slave in the family named McQueen, and the fifth child of a mother who gave birth to fifteen. In the years that followed hers was a long, hard life.

"I mammed 52 white babies, was married only four times, and was sold as a slave 15 times. I had three babies, but they died right soon after being born," she said.

Mrs. Prater is absolutely certain that she is 115, and in spite of her evident old age, her memory is good, she is quite active, gets around without any help, and occasionally goes downtown on the street cars alone. While being interviewed by the census men, she worked on her sewing with a needle which she threaded herself.

"Do you remember the date you were born?" she was asked.

"Go on, then, child, I ain't had no recollection; how'd I know? I'll remember the mummy said, shaking her head, 'I do know that the year the stars fell, I was 29 years old, and I do remember that I was then 29 years old, and that was in 1833. So I went on counting from that time on, starting on 25.'

"Many of the events that made the history of this country, I remember members well. 'Yes, boy, I remember the day we were freed. That was in Texas, on June 19. I just shouldered my gun and sang all day long, and then somebody said that the white folks told them they take the negroes and drill them and make them fight the Yankees, but they never did and we were freed then.'

Lincoln she knows as the man who freed her. Grant, Anna said, is the man that was on the battlefield and took Lincoln's place."

"NO SUCH THING AS VAMPIRE," SAYS SCREEN'S FAMOUS VAMP



Theda Bara in one of her vampire roles.

Here goes one of the cherished illusions of mankind. No less an authority than Theda Bara proclaims that the vampire is a myth, an illusion, a fiction. "There are no vampires," says Theda Bara.

Miss Bara is at present actively in the picture business, having temporarily abandoned her famous and fatal screen seduction for a part in a spoken play called "The Blue Flame," now current at the Shubert theater. But the tradition of the celluloid has followed her behind the footlights. She actually "vamps" in the play.

"And there never was a vampire," adds Miss Bara with almost irritating ease. "The woman who tries, or would try, to lure a man deliberately by premeditated display of physical charms, would instantly cease to be alluring. As soon as he became conscious of her obvious seduction, he would be bored. The popular conception of the vampire is that of a stupid woman who doesn't seem to have the vaguest notion of the subtleties involved in winning the male. I assure you—although I never knew the lady—that Cleopatra was as coy as a country maiden. So was Thais, so was Helen, so was every woman who wanted to be conspicuously attractive. Have you ever met a woman who lunched her shoulder and looked sidewise at a man in order to attract him? I haven't, although I may have done it on the screen. Have you ever met a woman who didn't know the advantage of an inch of silk stockings, delicately and modestly displayed, over many inches of nudity? Really, there are no vampires. Certainly, not the kind I portrayed on the screen."

PEACE IS GREAT DESIRE OF SLAVS

People of Former Austro-Hungarian Domain Tired of Turmoil.

LONDON, April 8.—Peace and tranquility rather than political questions are uppermost in the minds of the people in the territory that was once the Austro-Hungarian empire, in the opinion of Sir William Coode, K. B. E., director of British food relief in Europe. The chief yearning of the people, Sir William asserts, is for a return to stable, peaceful economic conditions that will relieve the precarious industrial situation that now obtains. The problem, Sir William believes, is an exceedingly grave one.

A review of conditions he discovered during recent visits to the former domain of the Hapsburgs and his opinions regarding the situation there were given by Sir William as follows:

"The position of Vienna is a very curious one today. Once one of the capitals of Europe, it still has a population of two and a half million people, but what can the tiny Austrian state, with only six and a half million inhabitants in all, do to support so great a city? From the economic point of view I fail to see how Vienna can remain as it was in the days of the Austro-Hungarian empire. There will probably not be a convulsive process of depopulation, but the Viennese will go away from their birthplace in numbers in the course of time, and likewise many Austrians of the country districts. Some, for instance, will go to South America. The emigration will be gradual and automatic. With regard to the existing Austrian government, its position is a very difficult one. No government is likely to be long-lived which cannot supply the people with the basic necessities of life. I should not like to be the member of a government to go to the constituents without being able to offer them coal and with very little food in the land."

"I did not notice a strong feeling for union with Germany among the Austrians. It must, however, be remembered that President Reich and Chancellor Renner have both publicly discussed the advantages of a political union with Germany."

In all the countries I visited the people have their backs to the wall, and are more concerned with the desire for peace and tranquility than with political questions, although in Hungary there is a definite wish for a monarchy. In Czechoslovakia they are settling down, but there is a shortage of coal and raw material. In Rumania they have a food surplus for export, yet no means of transport. It is the same in Jugoslavia.

"The people of Belgrade feel very bitterly the doings of d'Annunzio at Fiume and along the Dalmatian coast, but they exhibited much restraint, but they exhibited much restraint. I pick out one sentence that is the keynote of the paragraph. In the same way, she often finds the gist of a chapter concentrated in a few paragraphs. All books, of course, are not read from cover to cover. Ordinarily the first chapter, the last chapter and a middle

desperate situation that they have little time to think of anything else. Peace and credit are the things they need. Bolshevism is on the decline all through Southern Europe, despite the irritations the people have had to face. The Hungarians learned the lesson that Bolshevism does not supply food. If there were no food and no coal, of course, there might be an outbreak of complete anarchy.

M. Huszar, the new head of the government of Hungary, openly favors the return of the monarchial system. He is approved by the allies, who oppose a Hapsburg restoration in Hungary, although a new dynasty might pass muster. They are much better off for food in Budapest than in Vienna. Lack of coal and wood and the utter demoralization of the transport system form serious difficulties, nevertheless. The Rumanian occupation contributed very largely to the present shortages in the transport facilities of Hungary.

"There is no likelihood of any great restoration movement in what was once the empire of the Hapsburgs. The Czechs-Slovaks and the Jugos-Slavs hate the Austrians and the Austrians hate them. What has meant the making of one has meant the unmaking of the other. Certainly during the last two months all these countries have begun to realize their own interests by inaugurating their own policies among themselves. This was most urgently needed. The fundamental policy in central Europe must be insistence on the interchange of the basic necessities of life between all the states."

WOMAN READS 200 BOOKS MONTHLY

Library Editor Asserts American Novelists Have Too Many Happy Endings.

CLEVELAND, O., April 8.—If you can read a biography of 500 to 600 pages in two hours and remember nearly everything in it, you might qualify for the position of reviewer in the Cleveland public library.

That is the sort of high velocity reading done by Mrs. Donna Cope Allan, assistant library editor, who writes brief reviews for the library's monthly publication, "The Open Shelf."

Nearly all books accepted by the library board, with the exception of technical works and books in foreign languages, pass through Mrs. Allan's hands. She reads an average of 200 books every month.

Mrs. Allan is a graduate of Radcliffe college, and she learned there how to pick out one sentence that is the keynote of the paragraph. In the same way, she often finds the gist of a chapter concentrated in a few paragraphs. All books, of course, are not read from cover to cover. Ordinarily the first chapter, the last chapter and a middle

Comparative Costs of Shoes

Chapter 4

When the war broke out in 1914, owing to freight embargoes, etc., prices of raw materials eased off. Few had much money with which to buy. And then the market began to advance.

When hides went up tanners had stocks of leather and hides on hand in process of tanning, and contracts on their books for delivery at the low prices. The prices of finished leather, therefore did not reflect the advances in hides till the higher priced hides were converted into leather, which takes several months.

When the higher-priced leather began to reach the Shoe Manufacturers they had stocks of leather on hand and in process of conversion into Shoes, and orders on their books for delivery at the low prices. The prices of finished Shoes, therefore did not reflect the advances in leather till the higher priced leather was converted into Shoes, which takes several months.

When the higher-priced Shoes began to reach the retailers they had stocks of Shoes on hand at the low prices. They were able to a great extent to sell Shoes at prices less than the cost of production.

There will come a time when hides go down and leather still goes up, when leather goes down and Shoes still go up.

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Women say La-may stays on better than any other face powder.

Up to the present time it has been almost impossible to get a face powder to stay on the face longer than it takes to put it on. You powder your nose, and the first puff of your handkerchief and away goes the powder, leaving your nose shiny and conspicuous, probably just at the very moment when you would give anything to appear at your best. A specialist has at last perfected a new powder that really stays on that stays on until you wash it off. It does not contain white lead or starch or rice powder to make it stay on. This improved formula contains a medicinal powder doctors prescribe to improve the complexion. In fact, this powder helps to prevent and reduce enlarged pores and irritations. It is also astringent, discouraging flabbiness, crow's feet and wrinkles. This unusual powder is called La-may (French, Poudre L'Amie). Because La-may is pure and because it stays on so well it is already used by over a million American women. All dealers carry the large sixty-cent box, and many dealers also carry the generous thirty-cent size. When you use this harmless powder and see how beautifully it improves your complexion you will understand why La-may is so much sold in New York. We will give you five thousand dollars if you can buy a better face powder anywhere at any price. Herbert Kohlberg, 16 East 34th St., New York.

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chapter give Mrs. Allan sufficient knowledge of the average work of fiction, as well as an understanding of the author's style.

Mrs. Allan considers modern American fiction inferior to the work of European novelists. She admires most modern Russian and Spanish literature. "Too many American novelists write of life as they want it to be, instead of as it really is," she said. "There are too many heroes of the Richard Harding Davis type, handsome supermen, who overcome all obstacles and have everything add to suit themselves. And there are too many poor little Cinderellas who always marry the prince and live happily ever after."

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TO BUILD CHURCH FROM WAR HUTS

K. of C. Houses Furnish Lumber for Edifice To Be Erected.

BALTIMORE, Md., April 8.—The Knights of Columbus' huts at Camp Meade and Edgewood are now the property of Cardinal Gibbons, and after being dismantled one will be used to build a church at Potomac, a suburb of Washington, and the other will be converted into a structure to be used as a country home at Catonsville by the 60 orphans of the St. Vincent de Paul society. Both buildings were given to the cardinal on condition that he would pay the salvage prices. The huts had been closed and the work of dismantling will begin next Monday. Permission for the release of the buildings had to be sought from the war department, and has been consented to the removal of the lumber.

The church, which will be a temporary affair, will be 100 feet by 30 feet, and Rev. John McNamara will have charge of it. Potomac is a suburb something like the city of Washington, and the Catholic residents of that section have been urging the building of a church. The building will be hurried to completion, but when it will be ready as a church cannot be said at this time.

The Camp Meade hut after being dismantled will be used in the building of the orphan's home at Catonsville. It was in this structure that many of the Maryland soldiers who went overseas were entertained during their training period, and many veterans said that they were glad to know that it would be used for such a charitable cause as is now contemplated. Bernard J. Flynn, a young attorney who was a candidate for state attorney in the last primary election, had charge of the Knights of Columbus buildings and it was he who was mainly responsible for the appearance of many notable theatrical folk at the entertainments.

The cardinal said that the orphan's home would be a permanent affair. It will be erected on a concrete foundation, and buildings, boiler rooms and shower baths will be installed in the basement. It will be 50 feet deep and 30 feet wide.

BOY OF EIGHT IS HERO WHEN GIRLS DROWN IN POND

Five Children Break Through Ice and Lad Pulls Child, Aged Four, From Water to Safety.

BOSTON, Mass., April 8.—Two young girls were drowned and three other children narrowly escaped the same fate when they broke through the ice of the pond near the Slade spice mill on the Revere parkway.

One body was recovered within a half hour, and after a futile effort lasting nearly five hours to recover the other body, the Metropolitan park and the Revere police gave up the dragging of the pond until the water had been drawn off.

Margaret Keating, 12 years old, Chelsea, and Ida Colella, 10 years old, Chelsea, were the two drowned.

The Keating children, Alice Keating, 10 years old, and Daniel Francis Tanner, 4 years old, were rescued, as was also Nicholas Caramella, 12 years old, of Revere, who jumped into the pond to aid the children who had gone through the ice.

Going out on the thin ice, they es-

ayed to cross over, 100 yards or more, and had nearly completed the journey when the ice broke as the child bearing the two Keating girls got within 25 feet of the Revere shore. The Colella girl was too close upon the Keating girls' sled to avoid going into the water, and the sled bearing the Tanner boy also went in.

In his frantic efforts to save his sister, Thomas Keating pulled on the sled and succeeded in getting it upon firm ice. His older sister lost her grip upon it and fell back into the water, but his efforts kept the younger sister close to the edge of the ice, from which place Nicholas Caramella was able to drag her to safety. While his sister's rescue was being made by Caramella, Thomas devoted his attention to the Tanner boy. He was able to reach him by stretching out over the yawning hole and drew him upon the ice.

Scream in Terror.

Then Caramella jumped into the water in his efforts to save the older Keating girl and the Colella girl. All this time the children in the water and others close by on the ice who saw the accident were screaming with terror. The cries attracted the attention of a passing autoist. He turned his light out upon the ice to enable him to grasp the situation.

He ran to the Slade mill and secured a ladder and life preserver and managed to get the ladder out far enough to reach the Caramella boy, whom he brought ashore. That time several others had arrived and the autoist, without informing anyone who he was or where he came from, took the Caramella boy home, where he was put to bed. The Tanner boy was taken home by a woman autoist who failed to make known her name.

Two sleds that gladdened the hearts of the children a few days previous were the indirect cause of the tragedy that brought gloom into two homes.

The Keating children, accompanied by the Tanner boy and the Colella girl, were playing on the ice, going on from the Chelsea side. The Keating girls were on one sled and were being drawn by their brother Thomas. The Colella girl was dragging the Tanner boy a few feet behind.

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ONLY SERVICE MEN IN CONGRESS



Jacob S. Milligan (left) and King Swope.

Jacob S. Milligan and King Swope are the only two service men who have thus far been elected to congress. Milligan is from Missouri while Swope is a Kentuckian.